

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USNATO 04391 291225Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 TRSE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00
ICAE-00 INRE-00 /061 W
-----112160 291256Z /45

O 291212Z APR 78
FM USMISSION USNATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1189
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 04391

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO, IT, CA
SUBJECT: NATO DEFENSE INITIATIVES: DEMARCHES WITH
ITALIANS AND CANADIANS ON LTDP

REFS: (A) USNATO 4268 DTG 261709Z APR 78, (B)USNATO 4356
DTG 281419Z APR 78, NOTAL, (C) STATE 109560 DTG 290056Z
APR 78, NOTAL, (D) USNATO 3887 DTG 151315Z APR 78,
(E) USNATO 3886 DTG 151258Z APR 78

1. REF A REPORTS THAT AMBASSADOR CATALANO RECOGNIZED
THAT ITALY HAD INTRODUCED A HIGH PERCENTAGE OF THE
UNHELPFUL FOOTNOTES APPEARING IN THE DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE
REPORT ON THE LTDP BUT HOPED THEY WOULD BE REMOVED.
REF B REPORTS THE DISCUSSION BETWEEN DEFAD LEGERE
AND ITALIAN DEFAD PATRELLI IN WHICH LATTER, IN
RESPONSE TO QUESTIONING BY LEGERE, SAID HE BELIEVED
ROME WOULD REDUCE THE NUMBER OF ITALIAN FOOTNOTES.
REF C SUGGESTS WE CONTACT CATALANO TO URGE HE PURSUE
THIS MATTER AS A SHOW OF ALLIANCE SOLIDARITY AND
THAT EMBASSY ROME, AFTER EWG MEETING, MAKE SIMILAR
APPROACH TO FONOFF ON ANY REMAINING ITALIAN FOOTNOTES.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USNATO 04391 291225Z

2. WE RECEIVED REF C ON SATURDAY, APRIL 29. IN
VIEW OF THE WEEKEND AND THE MAY DAY HOLIDAY MONDAY,
WE CONSIDER IT FUTILE TO TRY TO RAISE THE MATTER WITH
CATALANO PRIOR TO THE TUESDAY MAY 2 EWG MEETING
WHICH STARTS AT 0930. WE PROPOSE, HOWEVER, TO FOLLOW-UP
IF THE OUTCOME OF THAT MEETING WARRANTS.

3. ALTHOUGH WE AGREE OF COURSE WITH NEED TO PRESERVE ALLIANCE SOLIDARITY ON LTDP, WE BELIEVE A SWEEPING GENERAL RESERVATION, AS PROPOSED PARA 4 REF C, COULD CONCEIVABLY RESULT IN A STILLBORN BIRTH OF THE LTDP. OTHER ALLIES COULD WELL CLAMOR TO GIVE UP ALL THEIR FOOTNOTES AND ENTHUSIASTICALLY JOIN IN ONE MASSIVE RESERVATION, WHICH IN EFFECT WOULD ALLOW THEM TO PICK AND CHOOSE IMPLEMENTING LTDP MEASURES AT THEIR OWN PACE. THIS WOULD ELIMINATE THE BASIS FOR EFFECTIVE MONITORING OF FUTURE PERFORMANCE IN LTDP FOLLOW-THROUGH.

4. WE TOO BELIEVE THAT MANY INDIVIDUAL RESERVATIONS WILL FALL AWAY BETWEEN NOW AND THE DPC MINISTERIAL. WE SUGGEST, THEREFORE, THAT WE HOLD IN ABEYANCE PROPOSING SUCH A SWEEPING RESERVATION UNTIL WE CAN DETERMINE THE NUMBER OF FOOTNOTES THAT STILL REMAIN FOR MINISTERS AND THE EXTENT OF THEIR DEBILITATING EFFECT. MAY 8 DPC PERMREPS SHOULD IN ANY EVENT PROVIDE A MORE USEFUL CHECKPOINT THAN MAY 2 EWG. EVEN THEN, AS WASHINGTON IS AWARE, THE FOOTNOTES WOULD BE PRIMARILY IN THE ANNEXES, WHICH WILL NOT BE TABLED FOR DISCUSSION AT THE SUMMIT. SINCE THERE IS NO MINISTERIAL PAPER AS SUCH, A GENERAL RESERVATION, IF ANY, WOULD HAVE TO GO INTO THE SUMMIT PAPER.

-

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USNATO 04391 291225Z

5. IF WASHINGTON IS THINKING OF DEMARCHES TO TROUBLE-SOME FALTERERS, OUR PRIME NOMINEE WOULD BE THE CANADIANS, WHO HAVE STARTED VIRTUALLY PLAYING DOG IN THE MANGER ON THE LTDP EXERCISE. REF A REPORTS HARDY'S VIEW ON THE NEED TO GO BACK TO THE DRAWING BOARD, A VIEW EXPRESSED PREVIOUSLY BY CANADIAN DEFAD OLSON AT THE APRIL 13-14 EWG MEETING (REFS D AND E). FOLLOWING THE MORNING SESSION OF THE APRIL 13 MEETING, DURING WHICH OLSON HAD BEEN UNHELPFUL, LEGERE SPOKE TO HIM LIKE A DUTCH UNCLE (OR MAFIA GODFATHER), AFTER WHICH HE REMAINED LARGELY SILENT.

6. WE CALL WASHINGTON'S ATTENTION IN OLSON'S STATEMENT AT THE APRIL 13 EWG (REF D) TO THE FOLLOWING: "AS MY AUTHORITIES CLEARLY POINTED OUT AT THE REINFORCED EWG MEETING, THEY DOUBT IF THE MAJORITY OF DEFENSE MINISTERS WILL BE EMPOWERED AT THE TIME OF THEIR MEETING IN MAY TO COMMIT THEIR NATIONS, EITHER NOW OR FOR THE FUTURE, TO THE WIDE RANGE OF COMPLEX PROGRAMS WITH LONG-TERM RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS. THEY BELIEVE SUCH COMMITMENTS MAY BE POSSIBLE FOR OTHERS, AS FOR US, ONLY AFTER HEADS OF STATE AND

GOVERNMENT HAVE DISCUSSED THE BROADER CONCEPTUAL ISSUES, INCLUDING THE LONG-TERM ASSESSMENT OF TRENDS IN EAST/WEST RELATIONS AND THE EVOLVING WARSAW PACT THREAT TO NATO."

7. CONSEQUENTLY, WE PROPOSE THAT WASHINGTON CONSIDER DEMARCHES AT THE APPROPRIATE LEVEL IN OTTAWA AND WITH THE CANADIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, TO GET CANADA BACK IN THE LTDP EXERCISE FROM WHICH IT HAS BEEN DISTANCING ITSELF. BENNETT

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEMARCHE, ALLIANCE, MILITARY PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USNATO04391
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780183-1056
Format: TEL
From: USNATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978041/aaaaaaka.tel
Line Count: 125
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0d37b2a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 USNATO 4268, 78 USNATO 4356
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2812315
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATO DEFENSE INITIATIVES: DEMARCHES WITH ITALIANS AND CANADIANS ON LTDP
TAGS: MPOL, IT, CA, NATO
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0d37b2a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014